IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI DELTA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VERSUS

CRIMINAL ACTION NO. 2:05CR111-P-B

LESA WALKER LESURE and NIKITA MICHELLE LESURE

ORDER

This cause is before the Court on the defendants' Joint Motion to Continue Trial [25]. The Court, having reviewed the motion and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, finds as follows, to-wit:

The trial of this matter is currently set for January 3, 2006. Counsel for defendants seek a continuance to permit more time to review discovery and to conduct plea negotiations. The government does not oppose the defendants' request. Based on the foregoing, the Court finds that the defendants' Motion for Continuance is well-taken and should be granted.

The above circumstances enable the Court to exclude, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(8)(A), the period of delay from January 3, 2005 until the new trial date to be set in this matter. The time is excludable under subsection (h)(8)(A) because, given the circumstances described above, a continuance is necessary to afford defendants additional time to investigate and prepare their defense to the charges at issue. Therefore, the ends of justice served by the granting of this continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendants in a speedy trial.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that

- 1. The defendant's Motion for Continuance [21] is GRANTED;
- That the trial of this matter is continued as to all defendants until Monday, February
 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the United States District Courthouse in Greenville,
 Mississippi;
- 3. That the delay from January 3 until February 6, 2006, is excluded as set out above;
- 4. That the deadline for filing pretrial motions is January 17, 2006;
- 5. That the deadline for submitting a plea agreement is January 23, 2006.

SO ORDERED, this the 20th day of December, 2005.

/s/ W. Allen Pepper, Jr.

W. ALLEN PEPPER, JR.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE